

Tips to save water during a hot summer

As the heat ratchets up so does water use, costing homeowners money and doing no favors for the environment.

Homeowners can learn to save water and money, however, with help from Oregon WaterWise Gardening, a statewide program of the Oregon State University Extension Service. Its website includes profiles of water-efficient plants.

Amy Jo Detweiler, a horticulturist with OSU Extension, compiled the following tips to help you conserve water and save on summer water bills:

When you're selecting new plants, look for plants that use less water such as native globe mallow, black-eyed Susan, sedums, blanket flower, lavender and coneflower. Once established, these plants require minimal irrigation. Group plants together based on their water use for maximum water conservation.

If you like colorful bedding annuals such as zinnias, marigolds, impatiens and petunias, consider putting them in pots or hanging baskets where you can provide water directly, rather than watering the entire garden.

Closely manage your watering. Hand watering and automatic irrigation can be adequate if you are an effi-



KYM POKORNY
Your Garden

cient water manager. Monitor how much water is used and adjust it throughout the season for warmer and cooler periods. Water in morning or late evening to mitigate evaporation.

If using automatic irrigation, consider drip emitters in clay type soils and microsprays in sandy soils. Be sure to provide adequate moisture to the entire root zone of the plant.

Soaker hoses are an alternative. Hook them to an automatic timer so you don't forget to turn off the water. This works for vegetable and ornamental gardens.

In western Oregon you can let your lawn go dormant for the summer. It will green up when winter rains begin.

In central and eastern Oregon, select more drought-resistant types of turf grass such as tall fescue or blended mixes and place turf only where needed. You will need to continue watering throughout the summer to prevent your lawn from dying.

You can find profiles and pictures of water-efficient



<https://flic.kr/p/W62heJ>

Hand watering is OK as long as it's done in the morning or evening when evaporation is at its lowest.

plants for Oregon's high desert in a 56-page publication authored by Detweiler, much of which is relevant in other areas of Oregon. Also available are Conserving Water in the Garden, and three infographics: Keys to Water-efficient Landscapes, It Pays to Water Wisely and Landscape Maintenance to Conserve Water.

For all of your landscape plants, encourage deep rooted plants by watering deeper less often. You can

look for clues to water stress, such as slight wilting or a dull, transparent look of the leaves and adjust your watering accordingly.

When you plant new shrubs and trees, provide a long soak from a hose to saturate the soil deeply in the immediate area. You should repeat this process several times, especially during dry periods, to give your new shrubs and trees the resources to grow strong and deep roots that will require less water in the future.

MI TOWN

Thursday is the opening of the Polk County Fair. All summer long we've anticipated three special days when everything good about our communities is showcased for everyone to see and enjoy. Our 4-H members have been working hard for weeks and weeks to have their special projects and animals prepared and ready for judging and display, and their parents, leaders and other volunteers are delighted to share in the fun.

It's always so much fun to be there bright and early to enjoy the entire day and to make new memories watching families with little children who delight in everything from petting the animals to enjoying the carnival rides and eating corn-



PATTY TAYLOR DUTCHER
Columnist

dogs with lots of bright yellow mustard. It's our once-a-year day to meet friends old and new, to visit all the commercial booths, to get advice on house and home projects, and to see all the things that represent the best of Polk County.

The berries and peaches are at their peak now, and our kitchens are busy with jam and pie making. All the hard work and efforts put forth during these busy days will be appreciated and remembered on those dark

and rainy winter mornings when the taste of summertime will appear on our breakfast tables. The apple tree is heavy with fruit and soon it will be time to savor those first wonderful bites and share the bounty with those we love.

Cascade Crescendo is this evening's Music in the Park featured group in Main Street Park in Monmouth. Pack a picnic basket or purchase food and drinks from various vendors and enjoy an evening of bluegrass, dubgrass and other Americana music from an extremely talented group of musicians who have performed all over the country.

Our dogs sure enjoy going on walks around MI Town and on the Western

Oregon University campus. They love the chance to get out and about, and the walk is good for all of us. We're always careful to carry plenty of plastic bags for cleaning up those not-so-special items the dogs tend to drop during our outing. It's not a fun task, but it goes along with responsible and caring dog ownership, so we do it. Sadly, not everyone shares our concern and we frequently notice dog "stuff" on lawns and sidewalks. I'm sure the other folks who share the lawns and sidewalks and streets don't appreciate dealing with somebody else's not so pleasant "stuff" (this is a family newspaper, so that word will have to suffice). Let's all remember to pick up after our pets and be good neighbors.

PEDEE NEWS

Shawn and Trina and kids Kalina and Kindan love to camp so they spent several days at Beverly Beach in a tent with all the dogs a few weekends ago, and then last weekend they camped by Quartzville Creek above Green Peter Dam, a remote, unimproved site. They all love being outside and fishing. Kalina is a diehard fisherperson and made her dad go out two or three times a day, finally catching five fish the last day at Quartzville. They also hiked for hours. Shawn believes they are all mountain goats — no trail is unpassable. They even camp in the yard sometimes.

Bill and Linda Chertudi's son James and wife Lily, from Columbia Falls, Mon-



ARLENE KOVASH
Columnist

tana, visited them for a week and a half in July, with their baby daughter Charlotte Elizabeth. They all went to Newport, the zoo, and visited with the rest of the family, with Linda keeping her eyes mostly on granddaughter Charlotte. After their visit with Bill and Linda, James and Lily drove to Colorado to see her parents. Both teach at White Fish Christian Academy in Montana.

Steve and Audrey

Cameron have reveled in visits from grandchildren this summer. Noah came for the whole month of July while his dad Chris, a commercial fisherman, fished in Alaska. Both he and cousin Ana Barth attended camp at Oregon State University for two weeks during that time. Son James and his wife Eliana came down from Milwaukie to join the group from time to time. One night a cougar went right into the Cameron barn and killed a lamb. They promptly called the trapper, who was able to get it.

Judy Guida and I discovered a great place to pick blueberries nearby, and they were so plentiful and reasonably priced that we will try to get a total of 40 pounds each

during the month. Kings Valley Gardens, on Tatom Lane just this side of the store, will have them through September, with some late varieties. They're open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and have lots. Best part is that all the neighbors are there, too, so lots of good company while picking.

Adam and Emily Coe are happy to announce the birth of their son, Charley Scott, on Thursday, 12:30 a.m. He came out at 9 pounds, 5 ounces — half grown. All doing well!

Several Pedee neighbors will be working at and entering items in the county fair this week, so look for us there.

MILESTONE

90th - Thompson

Longtime Dallas resident and teacher George Thompson Sr. is celebrating his 90th birthday with a reception on Saturday at the old gazebo in Dallas City Park at 2 p.m. The public is welcome to attend. The family requests no gifts. His actual birthday is on Aug. 28.

Thompson moved to Dallas in 1950, after graduating from Lewis and Clark College in Portland. In his first years in Dallas, Thompson taught band, chorus, and radio theory at the high school. Later, he moved to the junior high school, where he taught home room for a few years before switching to ninth-grade English. Soon, he instituted classes on journalism, speech and drama.

He also asked permission for, and was granted two periods per day to act as a counselor for students. He moved to Portland for a year to complete necessary training and received a master's degree in counseling from the University of Oregon. The school held his position for him while he studied.

For the next two decades and more, Thompson served as a guidance counselor for Dallas Junior High School, which moved to its current location LaCreole Middle School in 1966.

A year after his retirement, the Dallas Education Association established the "George Thompson Dallas Education Association Award," granted each year since 1989 to a graduating Dallas High School senior who plans to go into education.

Thompson presents the \$2,000 award each spring at the senior awards ceremony.

BIRTH

Chabot

Celine Brooke Chabot was born at 8:37 p.m. on July 11 to Christopher and Stefani Chabot, of West Salem.

The baby is the couple's first child.

Celine weighed 7 pounds, 7 ounces, and was 20 1/2 inches long.

Grandparents are Mitch and Caryn Hainsworth, of Dallas; and Keith and Kacey Chabot, of Peachtree, Ga.

Great-grandparents are Sally Zeigler, of Rickreall, Kathilene Gwyn, of Caldwell, Idaho, Si and Sybil Hainsworth, of Falls City, Roslyn Kania, of Peachtree, and Louis and Shirley Chabot, of Sun City, Calif.

Great-great-grandparent is Myrle Young, of Joseph.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Continued from page 8A

TUESDAY, AUG. 15

• **Overeaters Anonymous** — Noon to 1 p.m., Salem Health West Valley, 525 SE Washington St., Dallas. Support group meets in the quiet room/chapel immediately inside the emergency entrance on Clay Street. Dee Ann White, 971-718-6444.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 16

• **Willamette Valley Food Assistance Program Food Bank** — 1:30 to 6:30 p.m., 888 Monmouth Cutoff Road, Building E, Dallas. Weekly distribution for eligible community members. 503-831-5634.

• **Day-2-Day Diabetes Support Group** — 3 to 4 p.m., Salem Health West Valley (main conference room inside main entrance), 525 SE Washington St., Dallas. 503-623-7323.

• **Pickleball** — 9 a.m. to noon, Roger Jordan Community Park. Meets on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9 a.m. to noon and Sundays and Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. Karen Freeman, 503-871-4172.

• **Music in the Park** — 6:30 p.m., Main Street Park, Monmouth. Root Jack, rock. Free. www.ci.monmouth.or.us.

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